

# OCR A Level

Computer  
Science

H446 – Paper 1



## Introduction to SQL

Unit 4

Exchanging data



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# Objectives

- Be able to use SQL to retrieve data from multiple tables of a relational database
- Be able to interpret and modify SQL

# SQL

- **SQL** (pronounced S-Q-L or Sequel) stands for Structured Query Language
- It is a **declarative language** used for querying and updating tables in a relational database
- It can also be used to create tables
- You can create SQL statements in a programming language such as Python to access and manipulate a database

# SELECT .. FROM .. WHERE

- The SELECT statement is used to extract fields from one or more tables
- The syntax of the statement is:

SELECT *list of fields to be displayed*

FROM *list the table or tables the data will come from*

WHERE *list of search criteria*

ORDER BY *list the fields that the data is to be sorted on*  
*(ASC or DESC, default is ASCending order)*



# The SELECT statement

## tblProduct

productID	productName	subject	level	price
p24	Equations	Maths	2	£12.00
p36	Programming	Comp Science	4	£5.00
p47	Database	Comp Science	4	£5.00

- Which products will be selected by the following SQL statement, and in what order?

```
SELECT productID, productName, subject, price  
FROM tblProduct  
WHERE level = 4  
ORDER BY productName
```

# SQL Results

productID	productName	subject	level	price
p24	Equations	Maths	2	£12.00
p36	Programming	Comp Science	4	£5.00
p47	Database	Comp Science	4	£5.00

```
SELECT productID, productName, subject, price
FROM tblProduct
WHERE level = 4
ORDER BY productName
```

## Results

productID	productName	subject	price
p47	Database	Comp Science	£5.00
p36	Programming	Comp Science	£5.00

# ORDER BY

- You can sort the results of an SQL query in ascending or descending sequence
- To order in descending sequence, specify **DESC**
- Optionally, you can specify ASC (this is assumed if neither ASC or DESC is specified)

```
SELECT productID, productName, subject, price  
FROM tblProduct  
WHERE level = 4  
ORDER BY price DESC, productName ASC
```

# Using a wild card

**tblProduct**

productID	productName	subject	level	price
p24	Equations	Maths	2	£12.00
p36	Programming	Comp Science	4	£5.00
p47	Database	Comp Science	4	£5.00
p54	Hardware	Computing	3	£6.00

- You can use a “wild card” \* to mean “all” or “one or many characters”

```
SELECT *
```

```
FROM tblProduct
```

```
WHERE subject LIKE “Comp*”
```

- “LIKE” is used to search for a pattern



# Operators in the WHERE clause

productID	productName	subject	level	price
p24	Equations	Maths	2	£12.00
p36	Programming	Comp Science	4	£5.00
p47	Database	Comp Science	4	£5.00
p54	Hardware	Computing	3	£6.00

- You can also use the following in SQL queries:

BETWEEN between an inclusive range

IN specify multiple possible values for a column

For example:

```
SELECT *  
FROM tblProduct  
WHERE price BETWEEN 5.00 AND 10.00
```

# Operators in the WHERE clause

- The following operators may be used in the WHERE clause

**= <> > < >= <= AND, OR, NOT**

SELECT \*

FROM tblProduct

WHERE subject LIKE "Comp\*" AND level = 4

# Use of semicolon

- Some database systems require a semicolon at the end of each SQL statement
- A semicolon is the standard way to separate each SQL statement
- Do NOT put a semicolon at the end of each line

```
SELECT *  
FROM tblProduct  
WHERE subject LIKE "Comp*" AND level = 4
```

*Note: Semicolons are not used in these SQL examples*

# Worksheet 4

- Try the questions in **Task 1** and the practical exercise in **Task 2** on the worksheet

# Extracting data from multiple tables

- Using SQL, you can combine data from two or more tables by specifying the links between the tables
- In the RevisionSubs database created in Worksheet 2, there are three tables:

tblCustomer (custID, title, firstname, surname, email)

tblSubscription (subID, startdate, endDate, *custID*, *productID*)

tblProduct (productID, productName, subject, level, price)

- What do the italics in the definition of



# Specifying links between tables

- Write SQL to show the customer ID and surname with the IDs and names of any products they subscribe to:

tblCustomer (custID, title, firstname, surname, email)

tblSubscription (subID, startdate, endDate, *custID*, *productID*)

tblProduct (productID, productName, subject, level, price)

```
SELECT tblCustomer.custID, surname,  
tblProduct.productID, productName
```

```
FROM tblCustomer, tblProduct, tblSubscription
```

```
WHERE tblSubscription.custID = tblCustomer.custID
```

```
AND tblSubscription.productID =  
tblProduct productID
```



# Attributes from linked tables

- When you are selecting attributes from linked tables, if the attribute name occurs in more than one table, you should specify the table name
- If the attribute name occurs in only one table, specifying the table name is optional

```
SELECT tblCustomer.custID, surname,  
tblProduct.productID, productName  
FROM tblCustomer, tblProduct, tblSubscription  
WHERE tblSubscription.custID = tblCustomer.custID  
AND tblSubscription.productID =  
tblProduct.productID
```

# Using the JOIN keyword

- Data from two linked tables can be extracted using the JOIN keyword (an alternative to WHERE clause)
- An example of two tables linked in a one-to-many (1:M) relationship:

tblTeam(teamID, teamName, manager)

tblPlayer(playerID, surname, firstname, teamID)

- To display all the players on Team “Binham”:

```
SELECT tblPlayer.surname, tblPlayer.firstname,  
tblTeam.teamName
```

```
FROM tblTeam, tblPlayer
```

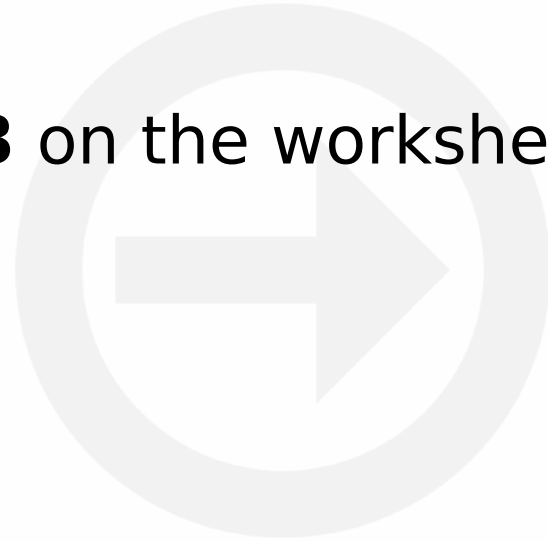
```
JOIN tblPlayer
```

```
ON tblTeam.teamID = tblPlayer.teamID
```

```
WHERE team teamName = “Binham”
```

# Worksheet 4

- Try the questions in **Task 3** on the worksheet



# Plenary

- Memorise the main SQL keywords, clauses and formats

SELECT...

FROM ...

WHERE ...

ORDER BY ...

- Use keyword **LIKE** and wildcard **\*** when appropriate
- Be familiar with the **JOIN ... ON** clause



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